AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please add the following new paragraph [0033a] after paragraph [0033].

[0033a] Figure 9 is a schematic illustration of a telecommunications network according to the invention;

Please replace paragraph [0034] with the following.

[0034] Figure ~~9~~ 10 is a schematic illustration of a lighting device of the present invention; and

Please replace paragraph [0035] with the following.

[0035] Figure ~~10~~ 11 is an enlarged view of the electrode of Figure 9.

Please replace paragraph [0067] with the following.

[0067] Further, according to the principles of the present invention, as illustrated in Figure 9, an improved telecommunications network N can be provided. Examples of suitable telecommunications networks, incorporating a gas discharge protection device 20 constructed according to the principles of the present invention include telecommunication device TD such as asymmetric digital subscriber lines (ADSL) and high-bit-rate digital subscriber lines (HDSL).

Please replace paragraph [0068] with the following.

[0068] The nanotube-based electrodes according to the present invention, by virtue of their improved properties, such as reduced variance and mean breakdown voltage, increased breakdown reliability over time, smaller electron emission turn-on requirements, stable electron emissions capable of high current density, and decreased reliance upon precise small separation distances when incorporated into certain devices, render them especially suited in other applications requiring robust and reliable ignition. For instance, electrodes constructed according to the principles of the present invention may be incorporated in a lighting device, such as high intensity lighting. Figure ~~9~~ 10 is a schematic illustration of an exemplary lighting device in which one or more electrodes constructed according to the principles of the present invention may be incorporated. Figure ~~9~~ 10 illustrates lighting device 90 which generally comprises a filled glass tube 92 which includes a phosphor coating 94 disposed on an inner surface thereof. Chamber 96 defined within the glass tube 92 contains a suitable material such as mercury and one or more inert gas. One or more electrodes 98 formed according to the principles of the present invention, as set forth previously, are provided and are in communication with a power source 99. The power source 99 causes the electrodes 98 to field emit electrons, thereby exciting the materials and phosphor coating within the glass tube 92 in a manner familiar to those in the art.

Please replace paragraph [0069] with the following.

Figure ~~10~~ 11 is an enlarged schematic illustration of the electrode 98 of the lighting device 90. As illustrated in Figure ~~10~~ 11, electrode 98 generally comprises a substrate 981 upon which coating 982 is applied. As previously described, coating 982 can comprise a nanostructure-containing material according to the present invention, as well as an adhesion promoting layer. According to a preferred embodiment, the nanostructure-containing material comprises single walled carbon nanotubes. An electrical insulator 983 is provided on the substrate 981, and includes a gate structure 984 which is in communication with the ground. By virtue of the beneficial properties of the electrodes of the present invention, the need for ballast-type igniters can be eliminated.